hairs up to 5 mm long on the lower surface; middle pinnae 4.5-6.0 × 0.8-1.0 cm, hardly widened at their bases, lobed to little more than half-way to their costa, lobes entire with rounded apices, costules 3-5 mm apart, veins 3 to 5 pairs, simple or forked ; lower pinnae somewhat deflexed with asymmetric base, the basal acroscopic lobe slightly enlarged and the basal basioscopic lobe reduced ; costae bearing ± small glands and unicellular hairs on lower surface, grooved on the upper surface with a few unicellular hairs on the ridges bordering the groove, rest of the surface glabrous. Sori submarginal ; spores monolete, 30-50 μm in diameter, perisporate forming a few irregular meshes. (Figs. 1-3).

Specimens examined : INDIA : Sikkim : Lachun valley, 8000 ft, 29.7.1884, *Gammie* 318 (CAL) ; Ex Herb. *Levinge*, 1889, *Bootia Collector* 1884 (CAL) ; Lachung valley : Yeumtong, 12000 ft, 24.8.1892, *Gammie* 997 (CAL) ; Lachen valley, 25.9.1982, *Ghosh* 56700 (CAL, BSA).

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A NOTE ON THE GENUS *DICKASONIA* WILLIAMS (ORCHIDACEAE)

The genus *Dickasonia* was established by Williams after Mr. F. G. Dickason of Judson College, Rangoon, Burma who used to send orchids from Burma to Mr. Williams from time to time for determination. Among his collections an orchid having the character of united lip and column which was otherwise inseparable from the genus *Panisea* L. was noticed and he published it as *Dickasonia vernicosa* as a new genus and a new species in the year 1941.

After over three decades this plant was reported by U. C. Pradhan from Manipur under the name *Kalimpongia narajitii* as a new genus and a new species from India (Pradhan, 1977). To confirm their identities the protologue and illustrations of both the species were gathered (courtesy Dr. G.

Seidenfaden, Denmark). The comparative studies of both the species along with the fresh collection from Manipur (Baishya, 71817) revealed their conspecificity. The present report thus records the genus *Dickasonia* Williams from India for the first time. Therefore, a detailed description is provided here to help in its further discovery in the country.

Dickasonia vernicosa Williams in Bot. Mus. Leafl. Harv. Univ. 9, 2 : 37-40. 1941. *Kalimpongia narajitii* Pradhan in Orchid Digest 41 (5) : 171-174. 1977, *Syn. nov.*

Habit of *Panisea* L. Small epiphyte, 7-15 cm high. *Pseudobulbs* 1-3 cm long, ellipsoid, clustered on a slender creeping rhizome, 1-leaved, rarely 2-leaved (type). *Leaves* plaited, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, narrowed to a short petiole, 3-12 × 0.5-2.5 cm, margins undulate. *Scape* lateral, from the base of the pseudobulbs, erect or drooping ; *raceme* 2-7-flowered. *Flowers* snow-white, small, usually unilateral (type) ; *sepals* broader than the petals, 3-5-nerved, *dorsal sepal* 10-14 × 3-3.5 mm, *laterals* keeled, 11-14 × 3-3.5 mm ; *petals* 0.9-11 × 2.5-3 mm, 3-nerved ; *lip* entire, simple, sessile, obovate, obtuse, apiculate, margins finely erose, united with the column almost up to its apex, 8-10 × 2.5-5 mm, 5-nerved, deflexed ; *column* 3-4 mm long, erect, shortly spurred, broader and winged at apex ; *anther cap* almost orbicular, 2-celled ; *pollinia* 4, 2 in each cell, yellow, caudicle attached to a formed semilunar gland (viscid mass). *Capsule* 6-ridged, 2 cm long with stalk.

Flowering : March-April.

Distribution : BURMA : Kyanksit chaung ; Chin Hill District and Haka (Type in Herb. Ames No. 57363). INDIA : Hengshi Village and Ukhrul, Manipur.

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ENDEMIC SPECIES OF *OPHIORRHIZA* L. (RUBIACEAE) FROM EASTERN INDIA

In course of taxonomic revision of the genus *Ophiorrhiza* L. (Rubiaceae) in India, status of different species regarding endemism, distribution, frequency of collection etc. have come to light. The present note describes two such endemic species which are represented in the herbaria by few collections and deserve attention.

Ophiorrhiza subcapitata Wall. ex Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 3 : 83. 1880 ; Kanjilal et al. Fl. Assam 3 : 42. 1939 ; Balakrishnan, Fl. Jowai 1 : 248. 1981 (Figs. a-g).

This species was originally collected by W. Gomez residing at Sylhet and most probably from Meghalaya in 1819. *Wallich's* (Cat. 6238) citation of locality as Sylhet is erroneous, as it is found in Meghalaya, and not in Sylhet. The second collection was made by J. D. Hooker & T. Thomson in Aug. 1850 from the Khasi Hills, 900-1200 m, the exact locality not being mentioned and the third by R. K. Das (34956 ! CAL) in June 1911 from Mausmai, Khasi Hills. After a lapse of about forty years it was collected from Pynursla, 1200 m in August 1949 by W. N. Koelz (23421 ! L). The last collection was made by Balakrishnan (42550 ! CAL) in May 1965 from Jowai. It is evident from the history of exploration